

## United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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## FORMER STOCKBROKER PLEADS GUILTY TO FEDERAL TAX CHARGES

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today that PAUL M. SNISKY, a former stock broker for CIBC Oppenheimer and Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, pled guilty yesterday in Manhattan federal court to failing to file a 1996 federal income tax return, and attempting to evade his 1997 income taxes.

SNISKY pled guilty to failing to file federal income tax return for 1996 and attempting to evade his 1997 income tax despite earning wages of approximately \$190,530 during 1996, and \$466,984 in 1997. According to the Information, SNISKY attempted to evade his 1997 income taxes by submitting a Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, to CIBC Oppenheimer during 1997, which falsely stated that he was exempt from withholding, and a separate Form W-4 to Morgan Stanley Dean Witter which falsely stated that he was entitled to claim 10 allowances. As a result

of the submission of these Forms W-4, only a minimal amount of taxes were withheld from SNISKY's 1997 wages of \$466,984, despite the fact that his tax liability for this year was approximately \$145,056.

United States District Judge BARBARA S. JONES scheduled February 2, 2004 for sentencing. SNISKY faces a maximum sentence of five years in prison for attempted evasion of income taxes plus a \$250,000 fine and one year in prison a \$100,000 fine for failing to file a federal income tax return.

SNISKY is 33 years old and presently resides in Portland, Oregon, according to court records.

Mr. COMEY thanked the Internal Revenue Service, Criminal Investigation, for its investigation of this case.

Special Assistant United States Attorney ANDREW KAMEROS is in charge of the prosecution.

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